Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for improving memory performance in an animal, the method comprising:

administering a therapeutically effective dose of a derivative of a succinate ester of general formula (I), or a stereo-isomer or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:

$$C_{1}OR_{1}$$
 $R5-C_{2}-R2$
 $H-C_{3}-R3$
 $C_{4}OR_{4}$ (I)

wherein,

R₁ and R₄ are selected from -OCH₃, -OH, -O-Glu,

$$-O-C$$
 \longrightarrow $O-C$ \longrightarrow $O-Glu$

R₂ and R₃ are selected from H, -OH, -O-Glu,

$$-\text{O-C} \xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}} \text{OH}$$
 , and $-\text{O-C} \xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}} \text{O-Glu}$

 R_5 is selected from non-branched or branched C_{1-6} alkyls; and the configuration of chiral center at C-2 and C-3 are 2R3S, 2R3R, 2S3S and 2S3R respectively.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, characterized in that said compound of formula (I) is:

Appl. No. 10/541,082 Response to Office Action Mailed June 27, 2008

$$C_{1}OR_{1}$$
 $R5-C_{2}-R2$
 $H-C_{3}-R3$
 $C_{4}OR_{4}$
(I)

or a stereo-isomer or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R_5 is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl; and R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , and R_4 are the same as that in claim 1.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2 characterized in that said compounds include:

Appl. No. 10/541,082 Response to Office Action Mailed June 27, 2008

 $1,4-bis(\beta-D-glucopyranosyloxybenzyl)-2-\beta-D-glucopyranosyl-2-isobutylmalate (dactylorhin A) \\ (W8);$

Appl. No. 10/541,082 Response to Office Action Mailed June 27, 2008

and stereo-isomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Appl. No. 10/541,082 Response to Office Action Mailed June 27, 2008

- 4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the compound is a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.
- 5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the animal has Alzheimer's disease, vascular dementia, or a learning or memory obstacle.
 - 6. (Canceled).
 - 7. (Canceled).
- 8. (Previously Presented) A method for improving memory performance in an animal comprising:

administering a therapeutically effective dose of an extract of *Coeloglossum* viride (L.) Hartm. var. bracteatum (Willd.) Richter, said extract comprising ethanol soluble compounds.

- 9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein the animal has Alzheimer's disease, vascular dementia, or a learning or memory obstacle.
 - 10. (Canceled).
 - 11. (Canceled).
- 12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the compound is a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.
- 13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the compound is a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.
 - 14. (Canceled).
 - 15. (Canceled).
 - 16. (Canceled).

- 17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the extract is prepared from rhizomes.
 - 18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the animal is a human.
- 19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the human has Alzheimer's disease.
- 20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, further comprising administering at least one of: scopolamine, cycloheximide, and amyloid-beta peptides.